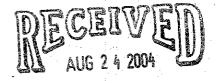


UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 10 HANFORD PROJECT OFFICE

712 Swift Boulevard, Suite 5 Richland, Washington 99352

August 9, 2004

Larry Earley
Director, Office of Spent Nuclear Fuel
U.S. Department of Energy
P.O. Box 550
Richland, WA 99352



EDMC

Subject: EPA Approval of "Sampling and Analysis Plan for Waste Disposition of Empty Large Diameter Containers Contaminated With KE Basin North Loadout Pit Sludge", SNF-20879, Revision 0

Dear Mr. Earley: Lavy

The EPA has reviewed the subject document provided in DOE letter 04-AMCP-0382.

Page 4 of the document states that "The LDC [Large Diameter Cask] will be shipped to a facility where it will be emptied of sludge from the NLOP [North Loadout Pit] to the extent possible." It is with that understanding that EPA approves this document which goes on to state that "Approximately 90 kg (200 lb) of NLOP sludge may be retained." The EPA understands that as a bounding case for analysis of waste disposal issues, but that LDCs will be emptied to the extent possible.

Since this document was written, EPA understands that the Department of Energy (DOE) has decided to treat the NLOP sludge at Hanford's T Plant rather than using the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory's 325 building. The EPA also understands that DOE would like to use the manufacture's LDC weight as the empty weight rather than weight the LDC prior to adding sludge. The EPA approves both of those deviations from this document.

If you have any questions on this document approval, please contact me at 509-376-9884.

Sincerely,

Larry Gadbois

Cc: D. Chris Smith, DOE
Dave Watson, Fluor
Jeff Westcott, Fluor

Administrative Record, 100-KR-2